

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR CATEGORIZING SERVICES USING CANONICAL
SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS

5 An apparatus and method for service classification are provided. The apparatus and method make use of canonical service descriptions which designate minimum requirements for a service to be classified into a corresponding classification. Based on
10 the canonical service description, it can be determined whether a service that wishes to be classified into a particular classification of a taxonomy on a service broker meets the minimum requirements for that classification. Furthermore, the use of canonical service descriptions ensures that all services
15 classified into a particular classification have a minimum level of functionality that will allow them to function properly when invoked.